

Administration Procedure 561

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION BOUNDARIES AND FEES

Background

Transportation service areas have been established to service designated schools as per Administration Procedure 305 – School Attendance Boundaries.

Procedures

1. Students, parents and/or guardians must request transportation each year by accessing their PowerSchool parent portal. Information for registration is available on the Division website at www.blackgold.ca.
2. Attendance Areas
 - 2.1 Parents may request that a student attend a school outside of their attendance area. It is a joint decision of the Principal of the designated school and the Principal of the requested school as to whether the student should be accepted at the school outside of the student's attendance area. The Principal of the requested school will contact the Principal of the designated school to discuss the request and confirm that the requested school has the space and resources available to accept a student outside of their attendance area.
 - 2.2 Transportation for "School of Choice" students may or may not be available. In some instances, those students may only be accommodated by meeting an existing regular program bus on route in the attendance area of that school, as outlined in Board Policy 17 – Student Transportation Services. "School of Choice" transportation fees will be established annually during the budget process. No distance, stops or time will be added to existing routes to accommodate "School of Choice" students.
 - 2.3 Principals are to check the attendance boundary maps and contact the Transportation Department when registering new students and advise parents if they reside outside of the attendance area. Any busing inquiries are to be forwarded to the Transportation Department.
 - 2.4 The maps of attendance boundaries are provided on the Division website.
3. 1.0 and 2.0 Km Walk Boundary
 - 3.1 The 1.0 and 2.0 km walk boundary is based on Alberta Education funding. Transportation funding is received for students who reside more than 1.0 km for grades K-6 and 2.0 km for grades 7-12 from their attending school. The distance will be calculated using roadways, walkways, alleyways, ditches, sidewalks, etc. for the 2023-2024 school year.
 - 3.2 Students are charged the Ineligible Transportation Fee set by the Board annually if they reside less than 1.0 km for grades K-6 and 2.0 km for grades 7-12 from their designated school and are able to access transportation.

- 3.3 No student may access busing without a bus pass and all students must scan their bus pass each time they access their bus.
- 3.4 The funding for Early Childhood Services (ECS) students is only provided by Alberta Education for students who are riding on a bus and reside more than 1.0 km from the designated school. ECS students who reside closer than 1.0 km to their designated school will be charged 50% of the Ineligible Transportation Fee if transportation is available. Noon hour busing is not available in any area.

4. Devon Schools

- 4.1 Transportation is provided to students from the Graminia area to Devon schools by Parkland School Division. New students wishing to access this transportation are to contact Parkland School Division's Transportation Department.

5. Miscellaneous Information

5.1 Out-Of-School Activities – Students

- 5.1.1 It is the parent's responsibility to provide transportation for their children for out-of-school activities (e.g. tutoring, sports programs, piano lessons, jobs, etc.). The Division will not add stops, time or distance to routes to accommodate these requests for regular riders, nor allow partial ridership to these types of out-of-school activities.

5.2 School-Related Activities

- 5.2.1 Student transportation required for particular school-related activities (e.g. swimming program, work experience students) is the responsibility of the school offering the opportunity or the course.

6. Refer to the Appendix for transportation for Pre-Kindergarten Program Unit Funding (PUF) students.

Reference: AP 305 School Attendance Boundaries
Board Policy 17 – Student Transportation Services